

# A-Z of Fundraising Ideas by Original Volunteers

## LOTS OF IDEAS TO HELP CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS VOLUNTEER COSTS



### We are here to help!

From sponsorship forms and letters of introduction to events, Original Volunteers will help you with your fundraising efforts to get you on your

way whether it is raising the money to make a trip or raising funds for a project you want to support.

## Highlights

- Use letters from A through Z to inspire fundraising ideas
- Use the money obtained to help contribute toward volunteering costs
- Have fun, see this as a pr equal to your volunteering experience and stay safe

Don't forget to make use of You Tube, Facebook, Twitter where you can.

Start a blog now which you can add to at the end with your volunteering photos so everyone can follow your volunteer journey from the very start.



Need some advice? Call us today: **01603 627 007** | [www.originalvolunteers.co.uk](http://www.originalvolunteers.co.uk) |

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## A

### ART

Offer to do a portrait of your friends for £25 or if you're not confident use your friend's photo and some art software like Photoshop or similar to 'adapt' a photo into a painting and print onto canvas. Anyone could easily do this but few have the time and increasingly most people just leave their photos in their phones.

### AUCTION

Your services to the highest bidder - write out a list of things you would be happy to do on one side of an A4 sheet and draw up columns for people to enter the amount they would like to bid. If you know the people you are asking, adjust your list to their lifestyles. For example, 2 hours of dog walking on the beach if you know someone who worries about their dog not getting enough exercise. Dye and blow dry if you have heard someone asking for help to colour their hair recently.

### Top Tip

"Use your computer to make digital art using effects in Photoshop"



## B

### BARBEQUE

Ask for £3 a ticket, people to bring their own drinks. To keep costs down if you are using cheap cuts of meat and burgers but keep things special, a variety of different salads in big bowls from Waldorf salad to cous cous and sultanas to fill everyone up. Do make sure you have some loudish music but don't forget to invite the neighbours or at least pop a note through their door the day before advising when it will finish so they can go out for the evening.

## C

### CAR BOOT SALE -

[Swap your unwanted belongings for cash!](#)

### CAKE SALE

See our [great recipes](#) and take them into college/work who could resist?

### CAR WASH

Ask relatives or pop a note through your neighbour's door with an explanation of what you need the money



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for. If no response pop round again in an evening and as an ice-breaker and ask if they saw the leaflet you popped in. This give you a chance to explain your goal.

## D

### DISCO IN YOUR GARAGE

Hire a small smoke machine and simple laser (£15) and speakers (from about £30 excluding deposit on return) attach to a laptop with your music selection and invite friends for £5 on the door. Once the party gets going everyone will choose the next track they want to listen to. In a small space could be the best party anyone's been to in years! If you are using your parents house use "Crime Scene Do Not Cross" tape over stairs and doors to contain your party guests to one area! Usually works. Market your disco as a pre-night-out disco so less pressure and means you can kick everyone out at 11pm for the rest of the night to go on to their usual club/pub. If successful everyone should tell you the next day that the club they went to later was nothing compared to your garage disco!

### DIET

Get sponsored to lose weight, post your progress in photos of you and your bathroom scales in a blog online.

## E



### EBAY

Make it easy to add things on and create an account with Paypal. Best tip -lots of photos and a detailed description. For an auction for a week best

not to end the week on a Friday or Saturday evening when most people are out or thinking about going out.

### EUROVISION PARTY

£5 a ticket with food. The BBC provide downloadable scorecards and party advice, google search Eurovision Party closer to the event.

## F

### FACE PAINTING

At college / work. To impress your friends, teach yourself first how to copy great designs which are a little bit unusual. Google search 'best facepaint designs' for out of the box ideas to impress.



### FANCY DRESS DAY

At school or work best to have a theme if possible. Horror and St Trinians easy but obvious, what about Stepford Wives? (you may have to print out a picture of them if nobody knows) Or insects?

## G

### GUY FAWKES PARTY

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## GOFUNDME

Create a fundraising page, add photos and sell your cause on this easy to use site which is fast becoming the latest place to sell your good cause! Sponsors can donate to you directly. Guess the amount of sweets in the jar  
Get your head shaved

## GUESS THE AMOUNT OF SWEETS IN THE JAR

## GET YOUR HEAD SHAVED



tournament here Have everyone play everyone and the person with the most points is the winner. Give out little tickets for winners of each game and at the end of the afternoon award a bottle of wine or voucher. Other games ideas: It's A knockout : Divide the guests into two teams and set up a simple assault course (crawl under table, around the pond, kick a ball for two metres) whilst carrying a flimsy plastic cup of water. Team with the most water in their jug at the end of the course wins a ticket each. For lots more ideas visit

<http://www.fetefun.co.uk/>

## HALLOWEEN PARTY

Make yourself the best dressed zombie to impress. Use the garden disco idea.

## HIKE YOUR WAY

To your trip of a lifetime.

## H

## HOLD A TRADITIONAL GARDEN PARTY

£8 a ticket. Organise a traditional mini fete with stalls and games for prizes. Put up some bunting. If you are the only host, organise a self-serve buffet to take the pressure off so you are not tied to serving food. For games, set up 5 areas of the garden with a different activity in each. Ask around friends for any garden games they may have but even something as simple as Connect Four goes down well, make it more special with the table already set up with two chairs or a blanket on the floor with two cushions and a little sign saying Connect Four

## Top Tip

“Sporting activities, tournaments or races can be physically challenging but rewarding and can gain a lot of sponsorship”

## I

**INDIAN NIGHT** (curry night). Make more authentic by dressing up, having meal on floor, candles in room and traditional Indian music playing (or Slumdog soundtrack!)

## J

## JAIL BREAK

Do it yourself or as a team see who can get the furthest away from where you are in a time limit

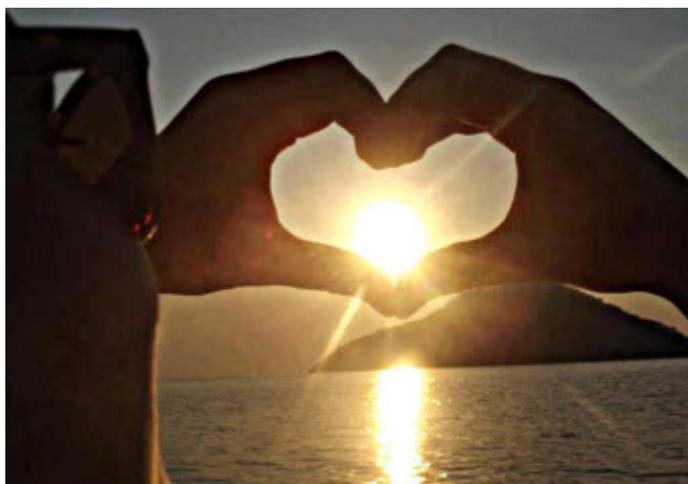
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for free how far will you and they get for free? Popular amongst students winner or winning team wins a prize or you can be their slave for a day! If you are doing it yourself get sponsored for distance away in miles. Participants post photos of themselves at prominent landmarks holding a newspaper with a date on. For more jaibreak ideas visit :

<http://www.studentjaibreak.co.uk/bristol/> and <http://www.warwicksu.com/societies/jaibreak/>

## **JELLY PARTY**

Organise jelly related games (jelly and spoon three legged race), hire a bouncy castle, fill containers with jelly pieces and party guests (without looking) put their hand in to guess the object within.



## **K**

### **KARAOKE NIGHT**

### **KNITTING WORKSHOP**

Teach your friends how to knit and then give them a time limit to knit a square. You can then sew them altogether into a blanket and take to a project in need.

## **L**

### **LONDON MARATHON**

Ballot opens about a year beforehand. VirginMoney were sponsors for 2014 (visit: <http://www.virginmoneylondonmarathon.com/>) or try a half marathon first. In the UK visit the website <http://www.halfmarathonlist.co.uk/>

Wear a funny costume or carry a sign and you will be more likely to be interviewed or shown on the news which will be of interest to your supporters.

## **M**

### **MASTERCLASS**

In something you are good at (French manicure?)

## **N**

### **NEW YEAR PARTY**

On theme of your project destination.

### **NO UNIFORM DAY**

## **O**

### **OLD BOOKS AND MUSIC**

### **ODD JOBS**

### **ODD CLOTHES DAY**

## **P**

### **PUB QUIZ**

### **PICNIC**

Make it more memorable, take some surprises which no one is expecting, eggs and spoons for a race, welly for welly throwing, pack of cards for a 'snap' tournament, do a blind taste test to guess what the snack or drink is.

### **PARACHUTE JUMP**

There are many places on offer around the UK.

## **Q**

### **QUIZ NIGHT**

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**QUINTESENTIALLY  
BRITISH/AMERICAN/AUSTRALIAN DAY  
THEME  
QUESTION OF SPORT QUIZ**

## R

### **RAFFLE FOR PRIZES**

Make cakes as prizes.

### **RADIO**

Contact your local community or regional radio station about your events and your trip these are easier to get on than national radio and are often under pressure to fill gaps in their schedules.

### **READ A CHALLENGING BOOK**

Try War and Peace , The Bible, the Entire Works of Shakespeare and video yourself reading them so everybody can see you did it for real!

## S

### **SHAVE YOUR HAIR OFF**

**SWEAR BOX AT THE  
OFFICE/COLLEGE  
FOR A MONTH**



## T

### **TEACH ENGLISH**

If you are going to a project to teach English why not practise on your friends as guinea pigs and use them for feedback (but they pay you as they will be also learning something about English teaching along the way!). You can tell them it will be great fun for them to critically judge your performance without causing offence! Tell them they need to pull apart your lesson to help you to improve before your trip. Give them some questions to think about whilst you do your class. What was interesting? What was boring? Would they have done something differently to you? Did you make eye contact with everyone? Did you appear to be disorganised/organised? Did you check they had understood? A 20 minute lesson should be enough divided into 4 sections of 5 minutes each as follows : (i) You say the word or phrase, get them to repeat what you say (ii) Now sing the words/sentence and use some actions that they have to copy (iii) Now write out the words for them to write down and draw a picture to go with the words. What did they think?

### **TREASURE HUNT**

Hide some clues at school or work which need to be followed one by one to the end of the route with a prize at the end. If the next location is the toilet a clue could be "I start with a T and if you take my eye out you could rent me". You could also include project related clues so if you are volunteering in Tanzania you could change the above to "Starts with the same letter as the country I am volunteering in and if you take the eye out you could rent me".

## U

**UNWANTED XMAS GIFTS** bring, swap and buy.

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## V

### **VEGAN WEEK**

Challenge yourself (for meat and dairy lovers.)

### **VAMPIRE DAY**

Hire a costume and leave a bite tattoo (washable) on anyone's neck who supports you (or doesn't.)

## W

### **WEAR SOMETHING SILLY**

Each day for a week or each hour and people guess what you might dress as.

### **WINDOW CLEANING**

### **WATCH X HOURS OF SOMETHING YOU DISLIKE**

Or the same pop video or TV episode over and over again. Friends could choose what!

### **WORK**

Unless you are planning well in advance – you will probably need something quick. Something which does not require lengthy application processes. Look for jobs which are those which are always looking for new recruits and will effectively take “anyone” because they simply need a job doing quick. This means you might be able to start tomorrow, try washing up (pop in to bars, restaurants, your student union bar), door to door fundraising (great for gaining confidence), factory production line work and agricultural work.

Give in your CV to a few local employment agencies and make it clear that you will do anything and you are ready to start immediately! This really helps agencies to find a job for you now. There's nothing worse than an agency being told “I can't start this week and then I can only work between the 10th and 17th because then I'm on holiday”. Choose the agencies carefully – for a job starting this week you may want to target agencies which are advertising lots of jobs on lower rates of pay rather than executive positions but which may take longer to be selected for. HrGo and Select

Appointments are two national chains but most towns will have independent employment agencies which recruit temporary and factory operatives in your area. As long as you give in your CV to a few agencies you can always turn the pig feeding job down from one agency without affecting future job offers at the other. Well done!

And with another £600 from work on top of the £400 from other fundraising activities you will have reached at least £1000 - well done! Just be careful that long the way you don't get sidetracked into shopping trips and celebratory drinks.

## X

### **XYLOPHONE**

Learn to play some famous rock tracks which will make people laugh and upload video on You Tube show to anyone who donates! Even better if you dress up as an exaggerated version of the artist with a wig.

## Y

### **YOUTHDAY**

Everyone to dress up in their teens again.

## Z

### **ZOMBIE DAY**

Dress as a zombie.

### **ZIGGY STARDUST**

Dress up as the Starman himself!

*Good Luck!*

In whatever you choose to do we wish you the best of luck. Feel free to call us regarding support, we're always here to help on **01603 627007**

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